



**THE RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH**

Department for External Church Relations

## **Primate of the Church of Cyprus: the main thing now is to prevent the separation of Orthodoxy**

The Primate of Church of Cyprus has distanced himself from the statement made by the Ukrainian Ministry of Foreign Affairs that at the meeting with the Ambassador of Ukraine on January 9 he allegedly supported the “autocephalous church” in the country.

In his comments to Romfea, a Greek church news agency, His Beatitude Archbishop Chrysostomos II of New Justiniana and All Cyprus called these statements false and noted that the main issue today is not autocephaly, but prevention of the separation of Orthodoxy. As to autocephaly, he sees that at the moment ‘the Ukrainian people have not took a stand in its favour.’

His Beatitude Chrysostomos said that he had received a proposal to meet with “metropolitan’ Epifany, head of the newly created “Orthodox Church in Ukraine”, but he flatly refused and underscored that he did not commemorate him at the Liturgy and will never do it.

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Source: <https://mospat.ru/en/news/46775/>